Application Filed: September 08, 2003 Inventors: Michael Hattersley, et al.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of providing underwriting and servicing of a financial account, comprising:

receiving, over a data network, account application information including a bank account information;

transferring, over the data network, at least one randomly generated deposit amount to the bank account corresponding to the received bank account information; receiving, over the data network, a deposit verification amount;

comparing, using a controller, the received deposit verification amount with the deposited at least one deposit amount;

generating, using the controller, a financial account corresponding to the received account application information, wherein the financial account is electronically linked to the bank account when the received deposit verification amount matches the deposited at least one deposit amount;

receiving, over the data network, a user selected debit transaction amount from a plurality of debit transaction amounts when the financial account is generated;

automatically debiting, using the controller, the user selected debit transaction amount from the bank account electronically to the financial account at a predetermined interval;

periodically verifying, using the controller, a balance amount of the bank account; and

periodically determining, using the controller, whether the balance amount of the bank account is equal to or greater than an outstanding balance amount of the financial account by comparing the verified balance amount of the bank account to the outstanding balance amount of the financial account.

2. (Cancelled)

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(Cancelled)

- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined interval is a 30 day interval.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the user selected periodic debit transaction amount includes one of a full balance of the financial account, a minimum payment amount of the financial account, and a minimum payment amount of the financial account plus a predetermined payment amount.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising performing, using the controller, credit verification based on the received account application information.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein performing, using the controller, credit verification further comprises:

transmitting, over the data network, the account application information to a credit bureau; and

receiving, over the data network, a credit history information corresponding to the transmitted account application information.

- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the credit history information includes a numeric representation of the account application information.
- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the financial account is a credit card account.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating, using the controller, a financial account default notification when the balance amount of

the linked bank account falls below a predetermined minimum level.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising transmitting,

over the data network, the financial account default notification.

12. (Previously Presented) A system for providing underwriting and servicing of a

financial account, comprising:

a data network;

a user terminal operatively coupled to the data network and configured to

transmit and receive data from the data network;

a server terminal operatively coupled to the data network, the server terminal

configured to:

receive account application information including a bank account

information from the user terminal;

deposit at least one deposit amount to the bank account corresponding to

the received bank account information;

receive a deposit verification amount from the user terminal;

compare the received deposit verification amount with the deposited at

least one deposit amount;

generate a financial account corresponding to the received account

application information only when the compared deposit verification amount

matches the at least one deposit amount, wherein the financial account is

electronically linked to the bank account;

receive a user selected debit transaction amount from a plurality of debit

transaction amounts when the financial account is generated;

debit the user selected debit transaction amount from the bank account

electronically to the financial account at a predetermined interval;

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periodically verify a balance amount of the bank account; and

periodically determine whether the balance amount of the bank account is

equal to or greater than an outstanding balance amount of the financial account

by comparing the verified balance amount of the bank account to the outstanding

balance amount of the financial account.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the predetermined

interval is a 30 day interval.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the user selected

periodic debit transaction amount includes one of a full balance of the financial account,

a minimum payment amount of the financial account, or a minimum payment amount of

the financial account plus a predetermined payment amount.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the server terminal is

further configured to:

transmit the account application information to a credit bureau; and

receive a credit history information corresponding to the transmitted account

application information.

18. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the financial account is a credit card

account.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the server terminal is

further configured to:

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generate a financial account default notification when the balance amount of the linked bank account falls below a predetermined minimum level; and transmit the account default notification to the user terminal.

20. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of providing underwriting and servicing of a financial account, the method comprising:

receiving account application information including a bank account information; depositing at least one randomly generated deposit amount to the bank account corresponding to the received bank account information;

receiving a deposit verification amount;

comparing the received deposit verification amount with the deposited at least one deposit amount; and

generating a financial account corresponding to the received account application information only when the compared deposit verification amount matches the at least one deposit amount, where the financial account is electronically linked to the bank account;

receiving a user selected debit transaction amount from a plurality of debit transaction amounts when the financial account is generated;

automatically debiting the user selected debit transaction amount from the bank account electronically to the financial account at a predetermined interval;

periodically verifying a balance amount of the bank account; and periodically determining whether the balance amount of the bank account is equal to or greater than an outstanding balance amount of the financial account by comparing the verified balance amount of the bank account to the outstanding balance amount of the financial account.

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21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising automatically adjusting one or more characteristics of the financial account when the verified balance amount of the bank account is less than the outstanding balance amount of the financial account.

- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the one or more characteristics of the financial account include an annual percentage rate of the financial account, a cash advance limit of the financial account, and a credit limit of the financial account.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 wherein the server terminal is further configured to automatically adjust one or more characteristics of the financial account when the verified balance amount of the bank account is less than the outstanding balance amount of the financial account.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the one or more characteristics of the financial account include an annual percentage rate of the financial account, a cash advance limit of the financial account, and a credit limit of the financial account.